English Express

January 2007

A free newspaper for adult learners | 60,000 readers | Alberta Advanced Education and Technology

Photo: Edmonton Journal (Chris Schwarz)

Sheila Buchanan gives food to homeless people every weekend. She started in April 2006.

Woman helps homeless people

Sheila lives in Edmonton. Every weekend, she gives hot meals to homeless people.

She said, "I just want to make sure these people have some food."

Cooks stew

Man wants to reduce pollution

Tim Harvey is from British Columbia. He is worried about the Earth.

Tim thinks there is too much pollution. It comes from many things. For example: cars and planes.

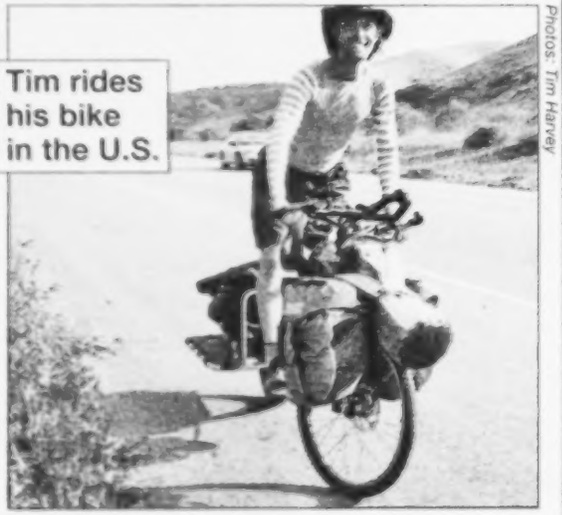
Pollution is bad for the Earth. It is bad for people, plants and animals.

What did Tim do?

In June 2004, Tim started a trip around the world. He did not want to pollute the Earth on his trip. So he did not travel by car, bus, train, ship or plane.

How did Tim travel?

Tim walked, canoed, biked, sailed, rowed and skied.



Photos: Tim Harvey

Tim rides his bike in the U.S.

Help from strangers

Tim travelled alone and with friends. Many people helped him. Many strangers gave him food and a place to sleep.

Tim often slept in a tent.

Dangerous trip

Tim's trip was dangerous. For example:

Sheila Buchanan gives food to homeless people every weekend. She started in April 2006.

Woman helps homeless people

Sheila lives in Edmonton. Every weekend, she gives hot meals to homeless people.

She said, "I just want to make sure these people have some food."

Cooks stew

Sheila makes stew and bannock (bread). She uses family recipes.

Sheila buys the flour, milk, vegetables and meat herself. She cooks the meals in her kitchen.

Then Sheila takes the food downtown. She stops her van. Soon people come to eat.

One man said, "It makes me feel better, and not just because of the food. She cares."

Adapted from the Edmonton Journal

Celebrate Family Literacy Day on January 27

Banner photo: Travel Alberta • Art—literacy: Nola Johnston; car & Earth: Guy Parsons

Pollution is bad for the Earth. It is bad for people, plants and animals.

What did Tim do?

In June 2004, Tim started a trip around the world. He did not want to pollute the Earth on his trip. So he did not travel by car, bus, train, ship or plane.

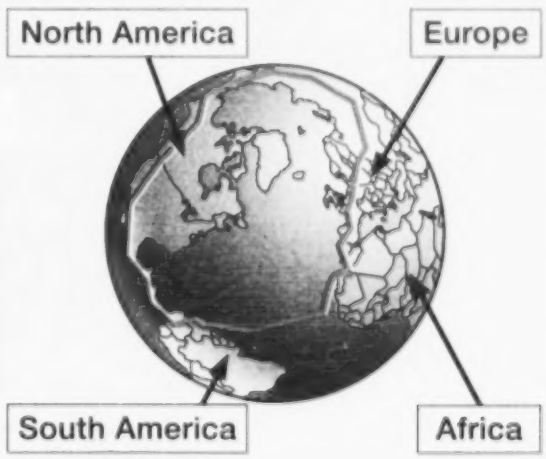
How did Tim travel?

Tim walked, canoed, biked, sailed, rowed and skied.

Tim walks in South America.

Where did Tim go?

Tim's trip took 893 days. He went 42,000 kilometres (26,000 miles). The red line shows Tim's trip.



Help from strangers

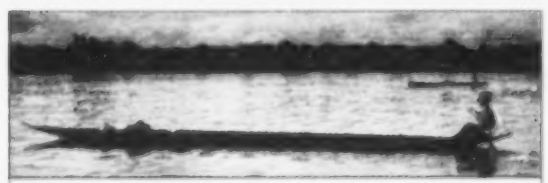
Tim travelled alone and with friends. Many people helped him. Many strangers gave him food and a place to sleep.

Tim often slept in a tent.

Dangerous trip

Tim's trip was dangerous. For example:

- A truck hit Tim on his bike in Mexico.
- Tim was in a very bad storm at sea. A ship saved him.
- He got very sick in Colombia.
- He was in jail in Panama.



Tim canoes in South America.

Happy to be home

Tim finished his trip in November 2006. He was happy to be home.

Tim wants to inspire other people. He hopes they will try to reduce pollution. For example, they can walk or bike to school or to work more often.

Adapted from <www.vancouvertovancouver.com>

Alberta has a new premier

Photo: Alberta government

Ed Stelmach (left) shakes hands with Ralph Klein.

Alberta has a new premier. His name is Ed Stelmach.

Our new premier

✔ Stelmach is 55 years old. He and his wife Marie have four children and one grandchild.

✔ Stelmach has been a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for 13 years.

✔ The Stelmachs have a farm near Andrew. It is 100 kilometres (62 miles) northeast of Edmonton.

Ed's grandparents started the farm in 1898. They were immigrants from Ukraine.

Photo: Supplied

Ed and Marie have a farm.

Took over from Klein

Ed Stelmach took over from Ralph Klein. Klein was premier for 14 years. He retired.

The Alberta Progressive Conservative party chose Stelmach as their new leader on December 2, 2006. He became premier on December 14.

Adapted from the Edmonton Journal

Website

Visit the *English Express* website. You can read and listen to articles, find word games and read stories by readers. You can also download the Teaching Notes.

Dear adult readers,

We will have two pages of stories from our adult readers in the May–June issue. Would you like to send in a story? You can send recipes and photos too.

Send your submission to the *English Express* office. Our address is on page 4. Please include:

- your name, address and phone number
- your teacher's or tutor's name, phone number, fax number and e-mail address

Deadline: March 21, 2007

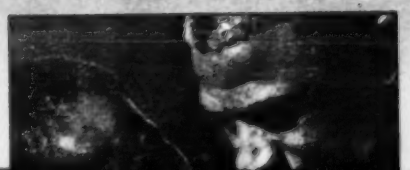
Canada's top athlete

Cindy Klassen won a big award in December 2006. The award is for Canada's top athlete.

Won five medals

Klassen is a speed skater.

Quote of the month



✔ Stelmach has been a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for 13 years.

Ed Stelmach took over from Ralph Klein. Klein was premier for 14 years. He retired.

The Alberta Progressive Conservative party chose Stelmach as their new leader on December 2, 2006. He became premier on December 14.

Adapted from the Edmonton Journal

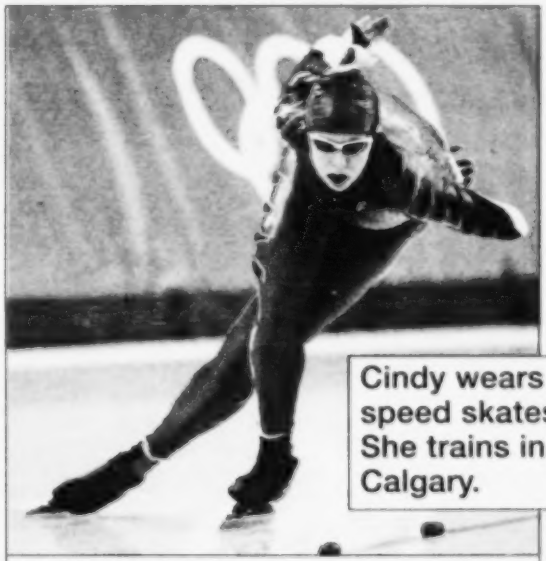
Canada's top athlete

Cindy Klassen won a big award in December 2006. The award is for Canada's top athlete.

Won five medals

Klassen is a speed skater. She won five medals in the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Cindy holds her five medals.



Cindy wears speed skates. She trains in Calgary.

Cindy hopes to skate in the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

Photos—Cindy medals: CP (Matt Dunham); Cindy skating: CP (Mike Ridewood) • Art—computer, Legislature: Guy Parsons

Baby Blues

©King Features Syndicate. With permission of Torstar Syndication Services

♪ ROCK-A-BYE, BABY, IN THE TREETOP! WHEN THE WIND BLOWS, THE CRADLE WILL ROCK!
WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS, THE CRADLE WILL FALL, AND ♪ DOWN WILL COME BABY, CRADLE AND ALL!
AGAIN!

Send your submissions

Send your submission to the *English Express* office. Our address is on page 4. Please include:

- your name, address and phone number
- your teacher's or tutor's name, phone number, fax number and e-mail address

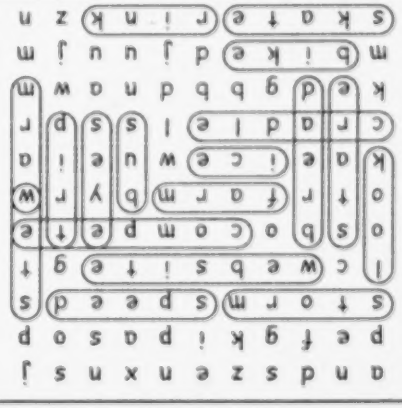
Deadline: March 21, 2007

Quote of the month

"One kind word can warm three winter months."

—*Proverb*

Answer box



English Express special issue #4

Family Literacy: Learning Together

Alberta Advanced Education and Technology FREE

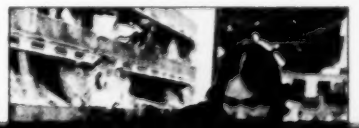
Helping toddlers learn

Toddlers are children from about 1½ to 3 years old. They can do many more things than babies can.

Toddlers are curious, and they like to explore. Here are some ways that toddlers learn.

■ Toddlers learn many things from their parents. Parents are important teachers.

■ Toddlers learn lots of language outside their homes. For example: at day care centres, at community and family celebrations, at stores.



Fun with words

Why?

No!

How can parents help their toddlers learn language? Parents can talk, talk, talk and read, read, read to their children.

Mine!

What's that?

Talking together

■ Toddlers love to talk with their parents. Talk about things that you see and places that you go.

■ Talk about what you are doing with your toddler. For example, name and describe clothes when you dress your toddler.

Finding books

■ Most toddlers love books.

Sharing books

■ Try to have a special time for reading. For example: after supper or at bedtime.

■ Show your toddler two or three books. Let your child pick one. Then look at it together.

■ It is okay to skip pages or look at your child's favourite pictures. Remember to have fun together!

■ Talk about pictures in books. For example, talk about what is

from their parents. Parents are important teachers.

■ Toddlers learn lots of language outside their homes. For example: at day care centres, at community and family celebrations, at stores.

■ Toddlers are starting to learn from each other. They are becoming more social.

■ Toddlers are learning how to make choices. They are becoming more independent.

Talking together

■ Toddlers love to talk with their parents. Talk about things that you see and places that you go.

■ Talk about what you are doing with your toddler. For example, name and describe clothes when you dress your toddler.

Finding books

■ Most toddlers love books. Look for books that repeat words from page to page. Simple storybooks are good too.

■ Go to the public library. The librarian can help you find sturdy books for your toddler.

■ Look for books at garage sales and second-hand stores. Toddlers also like to look at flyers, magazines and catalogues.

Sharing books

■ Try to have a special time for reading. For example: after supper or at bedtime.

■ Show your toddler two or three books. Let your child pick one. Then look at it together.

■ It is okay to skip pages or look at your child's favourite pictures. Remember to have fun together!

■ Talk about pictures in books. For example, talk about what is happening in the pictures. Talk about colours and shapes.

■ Compare things in the pictures to things in your child's life.

■ Remember that toddlers like to read some books many times.

Note: In this issue, we use the word "parents." We mean mothers, fathers, foster parents and other people who are raising children. For example: grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Three age groups

On this page, we talk about toddlers in three general age groups:

- about 1½ to 2 years
- about 2 to 2½ years
- about 2½ to 3 years

Important note

✔ These age groups are a general guide. A child might do some things earlier than other children. Or a child might do some things later. Every child is different.

✔ Parents can do the activities on these pages in any language.

My child turns up the TV very loud. He doesn't seem to hear very well.
I'm frustrated. I can't tell when my daughter is happy or sad.

Are you worried?

Do you have questions about your toddler's language and social development? You can talk to a nurse or speech therapist at a community (public) health centre. Or talk to your family doctor.

This speech therapist is talking to a parent.

About 1½ to 2 years

Rhymes and songs are fun for toddlers. They learn about language and different sounds. Toddlers can remember some

About 2 to 2½ years

Toddlers learn by listening to parents. Toddlers might say a few words at a time. Parents can expand those words into

About 2½ to 3 years

Pretend play is good for toddlers. They can try new activities and situations. For example: having a tea

About 1½ to 2 years

Rhymes and songs are fun for toddlers. They learn about language and different sounds. Toddlers can remember some of the words. They enjoy the rhythm too.

Toddlers like stories that they know. They learn what is coming next in a story. They learn to predict. They can name things in the pictures.

About 2 to 2½ years

Toddlers learn by listening to parents. Toddlers might say a few words at a time. Parents can expand those words into sentences.

At this age, children are often ready to scribble. Parents can give them large crayons and paper. Toddlers feel good when parents praise and display their drawings.

About 2½ to 3 years

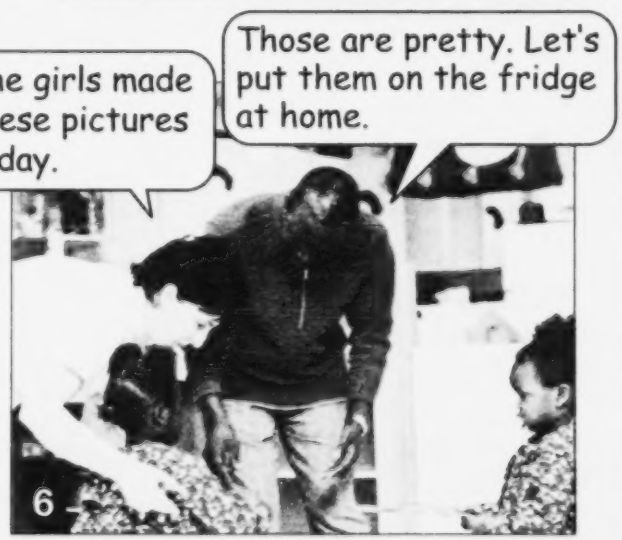
Pretend play is good for toddlers. They can try new activities and situations. For example: having a tea party. Sometimes toddlers like pretending to be adults.

Toddlers learn language by looking at signs and other printed words. Toddlers feel proud when they can recognize signs or words.

The twins learn all day long

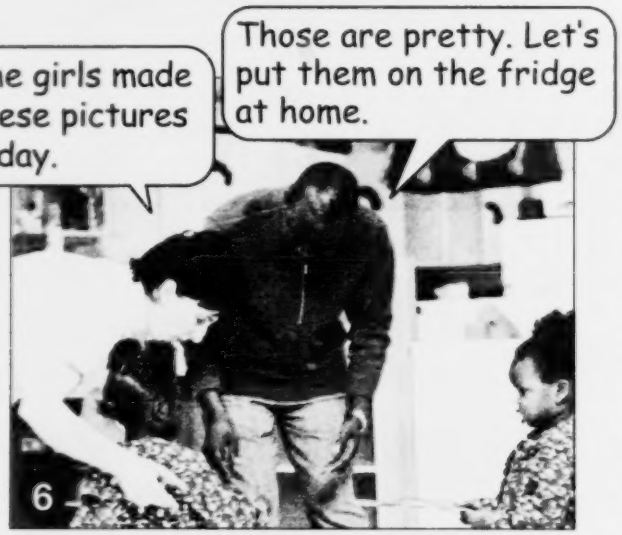
Mary and Makuag are from Sudan. They live in Alberta now. They are very busy with school, jobs and their six children.

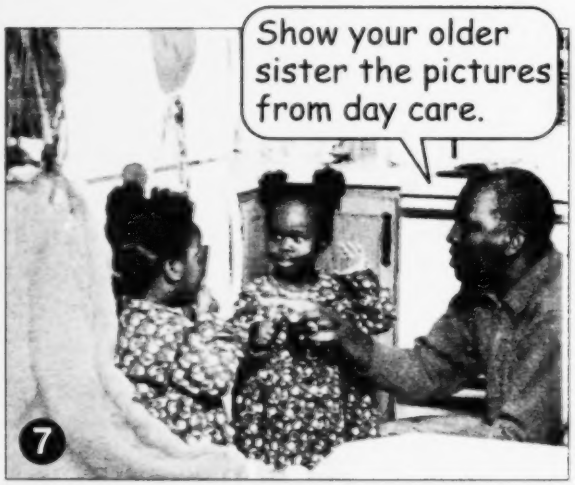
Achan and Anger are their youngest children. They are two years old. They are twins. They learn language all day long at home and at day care. They learn Arabic and English at home. They learn English at day care.



Decorate a box for books

Make a simple puzzle





Decorate a box for books

You and your toddler can make a special box for books. You will need a box and crayons or stickers.

■ Get a cardboard box from a store.

■ Help your child decorate the box with crayons or stickers. Print your child's name on the box.

■ Put your child's books in the box. Keep the box where your child can reach it.

Make a simple puzzle

You can make a simple puzzle for your toddler.

You will need

✔ one colourful picture from a calendar or magazine
✔ one piece of cardboard
✔ scissors
✔ glue

■ Trim the picture. Make the edges straight.

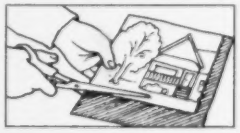
■ Cover the back of the picture evenly with glue.

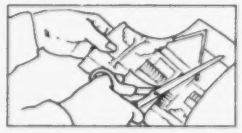
■ Put the picture on the cardboard.

■ Smooth the picture down with your fingers.

■ Cut the cardboard the same size as the picture.

■ Cut the picture into four or five pieces.





■ Check the edges of each piece. Sometimes they need more glue.

Show your toddler how the pieces go together. Talk about the picture. Have fun.

Caution: Don't let your toddler chew on this homemade puzzle. It might not be safe.

Family literacy is how families use language together.

Tips from parents

■ "My son likes to watch kids' shows on TV. I try to watch the shows with him and talk about them."

■ "I ask my toddler to help me. For example, she helps me set the table. We talk while we do these things together."

■ "Mealtime is a good time for me to talk with my son. I pay attention to what he says. We have little conversations."

■ "My daughter is learning to use crayons and scissors. I watch her carefully when she uses them."

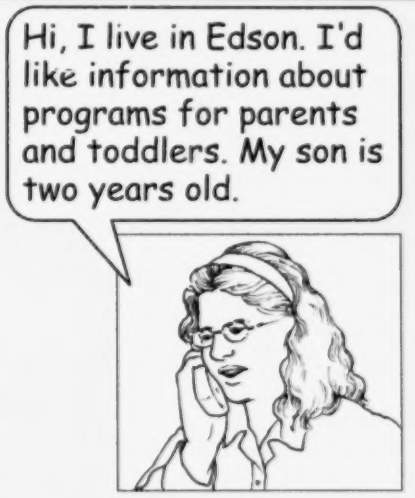
Family literacy programs

Many communities in Alberta have family literacy programs. Some programs are for parents and toddlers. Most programs are in English. Some are in other languages. Ask about programs in your community.

Rhymes That Bind

These photos show a Rhymes That Bind group in Edmonton. It meets once a week for about

Information



Would you like information about programs for parents and children in your community? You can get information from:

Literacy Help Line
1-800-767-3231 (free)
helpline@literacyalberta.ca

Centre for Family Literacy
#201, 11456 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0M1
780-421-7323
info@famlit.ca

Special thanks to the people who helped with this issue and to the volunteers in the photos.

Activity drawings: Nola Johnston
Unlabelled photos: Bev Burke

Additional resources: *All About Me: Growth and Development Series* (9 pamphlets) from Alberta Health and Wellness, and Capital Health Authority—Edmonton.

English Express is for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

Family Literacy: Learning Together #4 is a special issue of *English Express*. It is published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology under the Parent-Child Literacy Strategy. The views expressed in this special issue are not necessarily the views of this department.

Material in *English Express* is copyrighted.

Family literacy programs

Many communities in Alberta have family literacy programs. Some programs are for parents and toddlers. Most programs are in English. Some are in other languages. Ask about programs in your community.

Rhymes That Bind

These photos show a Rhymes That Bind group in Edmonton. It meets once a week for about 45 minutes. This free program is for parents and their babies and toddlers.

The children and their parents sing songs in Cantonese, Mandarin and English. The children learn rhymes and listen to stories.

The parents and children have snacks before they go home.

Baby Blues

©King Features Syndicate. Reproduced with permission—Torstar Syndication Services

THEN THE BIG BAD WOLF SAID, "LITTLE PIGS, LITTLE PIGS, LET ME IN!"
AND THE THREE LITTLE PIGS SAID, "Not by the hairs on our chinny chin-chins!"
"THEN I'LL HUFF, AND I'LL PUFF AND I'LL BLO-O-O-O-OW YOUR HOUSE DOWN!"
I'M DEVELOPING "VOICES"!
I NOTICED.

Ask for other issues in the family literacy series.

Centre for Family Literacy
#201, 11456 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0M1
780-421-7323
info@famlit.ca

Special thanks to the people who helped with this issue and to the volunteers in the photos.

Activity drawings: Nola Johnston
Unlabelled photos: Bev Burke

Additional resources: *All About Me: Growth and Development Series* (9 pamphlets) from Alberta Health and Wellness, and Capital Health Authority—Edmonton.

English Express is for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

Family Literacy: Learning Together #4 is a special issue of *English Express*. It is published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology under the Parent-Child Literacy Strategy. The views expressed in this special issue are not necessarily the views of this department.

Material in *English Express* is copyrighted.

Project coordinator/Editor: Bev Burke

Researcher/Writer: Julia Melnyk

Assistant: Renate Oddy

Where to get copies

We can send free copies of **Family Literacy: Learning Together #4** and other issues in the series to schools, libraries and agencies in Alberta, the NWT, Nunavut and Yukon. Please consolidate orders for your organization or school. We do not send copies to other provinces or countries, or to individual readers.

Mail: English Express
Box #38028 Capilano
Edmonton, AB T6A 3Y6

E-mail: subscriptions@englishexpress.ca

Phone: In Edmonton, 780-440-3722
Outside Edmonton, 1-877-440-3722 (free)

Fax: 780-468-3119

Updated January 2007

ISSN0825-5466

The Family Literacy series is intended for "parents" of young children. Educational programs, agencies and child care providers can order free copies from the *English Express* office. Topics include:

#1: What is family literacy?
#2: How do young children develop?
#3: Helping babies learn
#4: Helping toddlers learn
#5: Helping preschoolers learn
#6: Children between 4½ & 6—helping them learn
#7: Starting Grade One
#8: Tell a story, read a story

Please contact Bev Burke regarding content.
E-mail: editor@englishexpress.ca

Culture in Alberta: Part 4

Communicating with your eyes

People communicate with their eyes. Using eyes to communicate is part of culture.

People look at each other in many ways. Different ways have different meanings.

Eye contact

Eye contact is when people look each other in the eye.

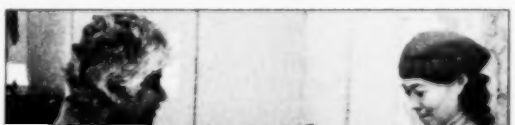
These women are talking. They are making eye contact.

A student's story

Myung Hee came to Canada 2 years ago. She is from Korea.

In Korea, she did not look her teachers in the eye. She was showing respect.

Myung Hee is studying English in Edmonton now. At first, she didn't look her teacher in the eye.



In Alberta

✔ In Alberta, eye contact often means:

"I am honest."

"I respect you."

"I am not hiding anything."

"I am interested in talking with you."

✔ Sometimes it is important to make eye contact. For example:

☞ when you have a job interview

☞ when you meet with your child's teacher

Readers' story

Who

We are students at Northern Lakes College. It has many campuses in northern Alberta.

We are in the Adult Basic Education Program.

Photos: Supplied

What

We came down from 30 campuses for Lab Day. We learned about the 5 Ws—who, what, when, where, why.

It is a great way to help understand stories and learn to write better.

When

Lab Day happens 2 times a year—in October and March.

Where

We met in Slave Lake in October 2006.

Our campuses are in:

- High Prairie
- Calling Lake
- Crowsnest

These women are talking. They are making eye contact.

A student's story

Myung Hee came to Canada 2 years ago. She is from Korea.

In Korea, she did not look her teachers in the eye. She was showing respect.

Myung Hee is studying English in Edmonton now. At first, she didn't look her teacher in the eye.

Then Myung Hee's teacher taught her about eye contact in Canada. Here it is good to look your teacher in the eye.

Photos—eye contact: Bev Burke • Art: Nola Johnston

✔ Sometimes it is important to make eye contact. For example:

☞ when you have a job interview

☞ when you meet with your child's teacher

✔ Sometimes strangers don't make eye contact. For example:

☞ on a bus

☞ in an elevator

Staring

Staring can make people feel uncomfortable. How do you feel when people stare at you?

We came down from 30 campuses for Lab Day. We learned about the 5 Ws—who, what, when, where, why.

It is a great way to help understand stories and learn to write better.

When

Lab Day happens 2 times a year—in October and March.

Where

We met in Slave Lake in October 2006.

Our campuses are in:

- High Prairie
- Calling Lake
- Grouard
- La Crete

and many other places.

Why

We get together:

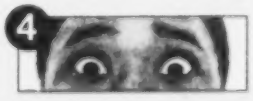
- to learn
- to get a better job
- to create a more positive life
- to meet new people

Upgrading takes:

- commitment
- determination
- a positive attitude
- sacrifice

But it pays off when you reach your education or job goals.

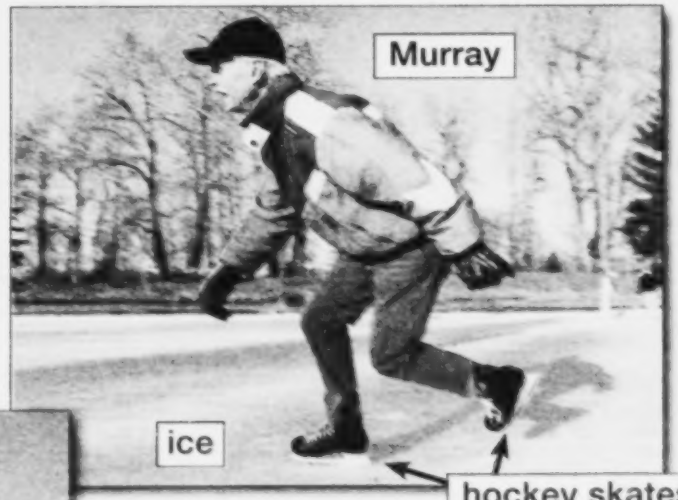
What do these eyes say to you?



Things to do

It's fun to skate

Murray lives
in Calgary.
He plays hockey
at an indoor rink.
He likes to skate
outdoors too.



This girl is learning to skate.
Her dad is teaching her.

Adapted from the Calgary Herald

Watch skating on TV

Watch skating on TV
in mid-January.
The best skaters in Canada

Find the words

Find the words in the puzzle. Some words go across and some go down.

bike	rink
bread	skate
bus	speed
compete	stare
cradle	stew
eyes	storm
farm	trip
ice	warm
look	website

a n d s z e n x n s j
p e f g k i p a s o p
s t o r m s p e e d s
l c w e b s i t e g t
o s b o c o m p e t e
o t r f a r m b y r w
k a e i c e w u e i a
c r a d l e l s s p r
k e d g b b d n a w m
m b i k e d j u u j m
s k a t e r i n k z n

☞ Answers on page 2

English Express is intended for **adults** improving their English reading skills. Article levels include:

Level 1 Level 2 Level 3

English Express is published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. The views expressed in *English Express* are not necessarily the views of this department. Material is copyrighted.

How to order *English Express*

This girl is learning to skate.
Her dad is teaching her.

Adapted from the Calgary Herald

s	t	o	r	m	s	p	e	e	d	s
l	c	w	e	b	s	i	t	e	g	t
o	s	b	o	c	o	m	p	e	t	e
o	t	r	f	a	r	m	b	y	r	w
k	a	e	i	c	e	w	u	e	i	a
c	r	a	d	l	e	l	s	s	p	r
k	e	d	g	b	b	d	n	a	w	m
m	b	i	k	e	d	j	u	u	j	m
s	k	a	t	e	r	i	n	k	z	n

☞ Answers on page 2

Watch skating on TV

Watch skating on TV
in mid-January.
The best skaters in Canada
will compete in Halifax.

Photos—Murray, dad & daughter (Calgary Herald: Stuart Gradon); Joannie Rochette: Skate Canada (F. Scott Grant); Dubreuil & Lauzon: CP (Dmitry Lovetsky) • Art: Guy Parsons

English Express is intended for **adults** improving their English reading skills. Article levels include:

Level 1 Level 2 Level 3

English Express is published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. The views expressed in *English Express* are not necessarily the views of this department. Material is copyrighted.

How to order *English Express*

We send free copies to educational programs for adults, to libraries and to agencies in Alberta, the NWT, Nunavut and Yukon. Contact the *English Express* office to order copies or to change your subscription. Please consolidate orders so there is one subscription to your address. We do not send *English Express* to other provinces or countries, or to individual readers.

Note: We can no longer accept new subscriptions from K to 12 schools for use by children and youth under 18.

Mail: English Express
Box 38028 Capilano
Edmonton, Alberta T6A 3Y6

E-mail: subscriptions@englishexpress.ca

Phone: In Edmonton, 440-3722
Outside Edmonton, 1-877-440-3722

Fax: 780-468-3119

Volume 27 • Number 1
ISSN0825-5466

Alberta

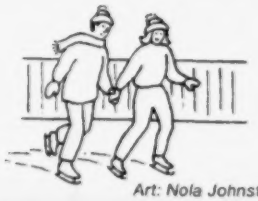
The Family Literacy series is intended for "parents" of young children. Educational programs, agencies and child care providers can order free copies from the *English Express* office. Topics include:

#1: What is family literacy?
#2: How do young children develop?
#3: Helping babies learn
#4: Helping toddlers learn
#5: Helping preschoolers learn
#6: Children between 4½ & 6—helping them learn
#7: Starting Grade One
#8: Tell a story, read a story

Please contact Bev Burke regarding content.
E-mail: editor@englishexpress.ca

English Express

Teaching Notes



Art: Nola Johnston

Please photocopy these notes. **January 2007**

Subscriptions—contact Maureen Day
E-mail: subscriptions@englishexpress.ca
Phone: Edmonton 440-3722
Outside Edmonton 1-877-440-3722 free
Mail: English Express
Box 38028 Capilano
Edmonton AB T6A 3Y6
Fax: 780-468-3119

Content—contact Bev Burke
E-mail: editor@englishexpress.ca
Phone: Edmonton 440-9833
Outside Edmonton 1-877-440-9822 free

Answers for exercises

Culture in Alberta - Part 4

2. I don't respect you.
3. I am dishonest.
4. I am not interested in talking to you.
5. I am shy.

Three ice sports

1. She is speed skating.
2. She is a speed skater.
3. They are playing hockey.
4. They are hockey players.
5. He is figure skating.
6. He is a figure skater.

Crossword answers

		P					H
M		R		B	I	K	E
E	Y	E	S				L
D		M		F	A	R	M
A		I		O			E
L		E		O			T
	C	R	A	D	L	E	

Man wants to reduce pollution

✔ Here are two websites worth looking at: <www.youtube.com> (and search for Tim Harvey) and <www.vancouvertovancouver.com>.

✔ Discuss ways that individuals can reduce pollution. Also could your program or school do something more for the environment?

Answer key for cloze exercise

Divide the class into groups. Give a copy of the answer key below to each group. One student reads the story out loud so others can check their answers.

Tim Harvey is from British Columbia. He wants to reduce pollution. In June 2004, Tim started a trip around the world. He didn't want to pollute the Earth on his trip. So he did not travel by car, bus, train, ship or plane. Tim walked, canoed, biked, sailed, rowed and skied. His trip took 893 days. He went 42,000 kilometres.

Tim travelled alone and with friends. Many people helped him. They gave him food and a place to sleep. Tim finished his trip in November 2006. He was happy to be home. Tim wants to inspire other people to try to reduce pollution.

Family Literacy special issues

The Family Literacy series is available from the *English Express* office on an ongoing basis. The eight issues include:

#1: What is Family Literacy?
#2: How do young children develop?
#3: Helping babies learn
#4: Helping toddlers learn
#5: Helping preschoolers learn
#6: Children between 4½ & 7—helping them learn
#7: Starting Grade One
#8: Tell a story, read a story

Man wants to reduce pollution

Answers on page TN-1

Here is a short version of the article on page 1 of *English Express*.
Fill in the verbs. Use the verbs in the box below.

Tim Harvey is from British Columbia. He _____ to reduce pollution. In June 2004, Tim _____ a trip around the world. He didn't _____ to pollute the Earth on his trip. So he did not _____ by car, bus, train, ship or plane. Tim _____, canoed, biked, sailed, rowed and skied. His trip _____ 893 days. He went 42,000 kilometres.

Tim _____ alone and with friends. Many people _____ him. They gave him food and a place to sleep. Tim _____ his trip in November 2006. He _____ happy to be home. Tim wants to inspire other people to try to reduce pollution.

was	wants	started	helped	finished
took	travel	travelled	walked	want

Culture in Alberta - Part 4

Answers on page TN-1

In Alberta, people usually expect you to make eye contact.
What can it mean if you don't make eye contact?

Change the 5 sentences. Make them say the opposite.

Making eye contact can often mean:

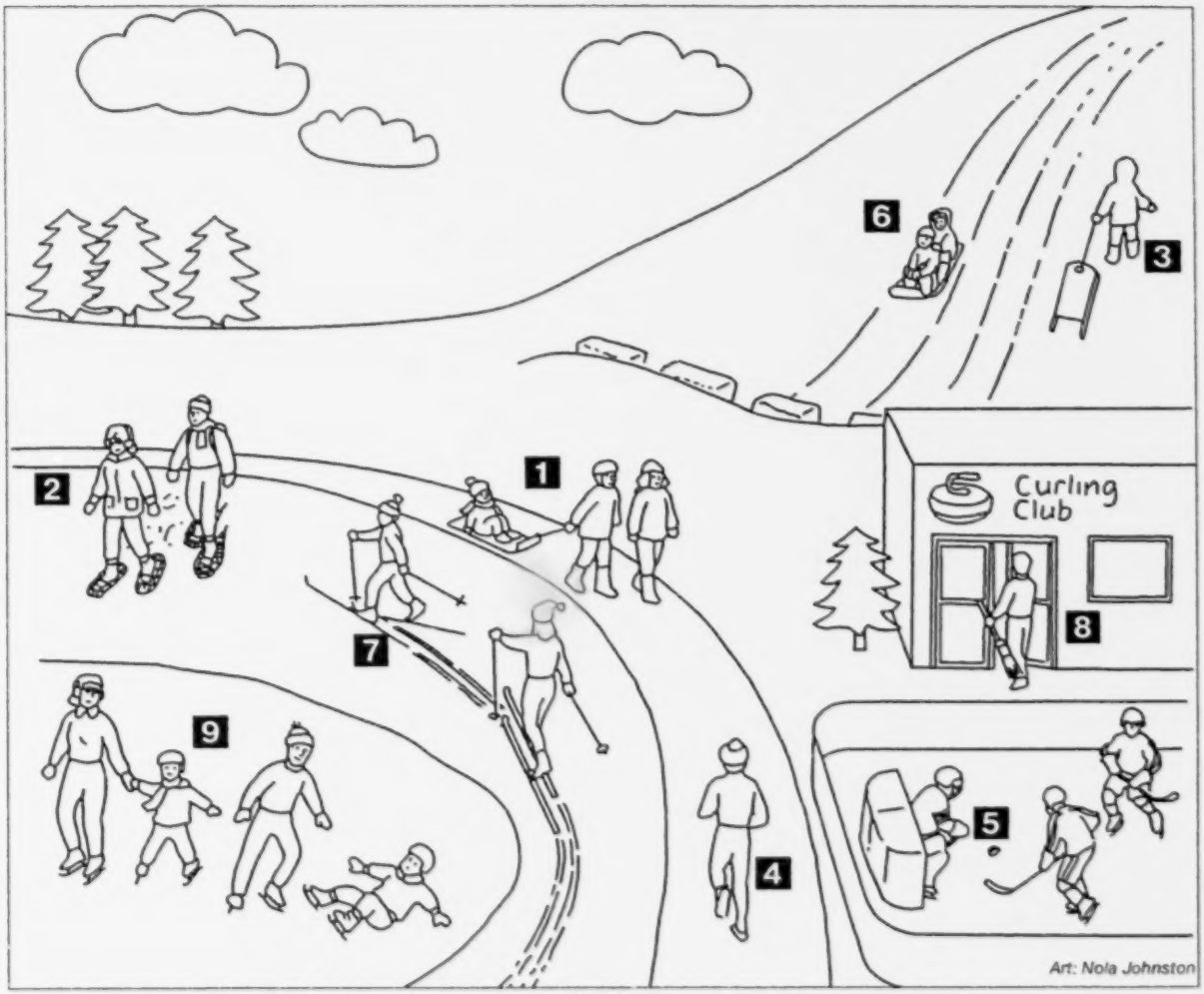
1. I am not hiding anything.
2. I respect you.
3. I am honest.
4. I am interested in talking to you.
5. I am not shy.

Not making eye contact can often mean:

1. I am hiding something.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Art: Nola Johnston

Winter activities



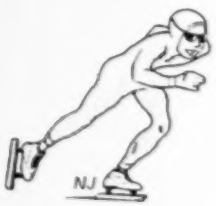
Complete the sentences. Write the name of the activity in the spaces.

1. They are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ and pulling a toboggan.
2. The couple are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
3. She is climbing uphill to go _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
4. He is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
5. The kids are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
6. These children are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
7. They are _ _ _ _ _ _ - _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
8. This man is going _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
9. They are _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

Three ice sports

Answers on page TN-1

Answer the questions. Use complete sentences.



1. What is she doing? _____
2. What is she? _____

3. What are they doing? _____
4. What are they? _____

5. What is he doing? _____
6. What is he? _____

Crossword

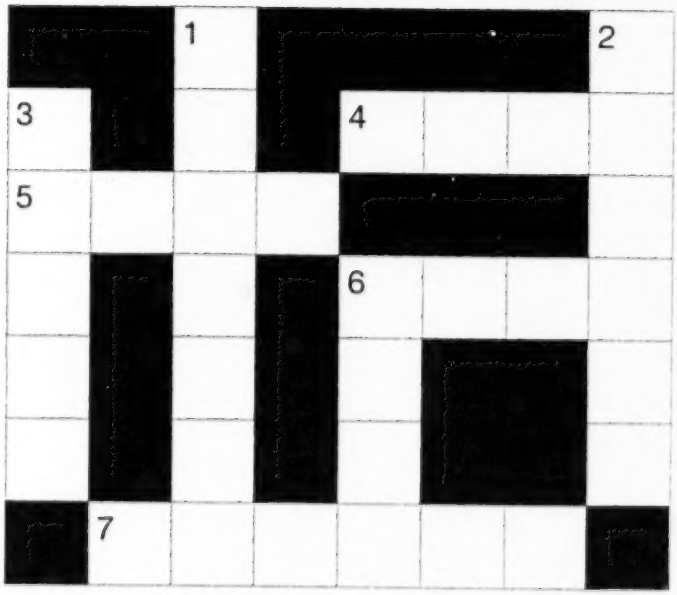
Answers on page TN-1

Across

4. A 2-wheeled vehicle
5. You communicate with them.
6. A place to grow crops and raise livestock
7. A bed for a baby

Down

1. The leader of the provincial government
2. It protects your head.
3. For a winner at the Olympics
6. Sheila wants homeless people to have _ _ _ _ .



Teaching Notes for special issue #4

Family Literacy:
Learning Together

English Express **Please photocopy these notes.**

Note: This special issue of *English Express* is part of an 8-part series on Family Literacy:

#1: What is Family Literacy?
#2: How do young children develop?
#3: Helping babies learn
#4: Helping toddlers learn
#5: Helping preschoolers learn
#6: Children between 4½ and 6 – helping them learn
#7: Starting Grade One
#8: Tell a story, read a story

We stock back copies of the series!

Child care

Parents often need child care for their toddlers. Talk about the different types of child care, including:

- babysitting by family members
- day care centres
- family day homes

Discussion questions

Do you go to work or school during the day? Who takes care of your children?

Have you ever taken your children to a day care centre, a family day home or a babysitter?

What activities do you like caregivers to do with your children?

Do you ever babysit other people's children? What activities do you do with the children?

Questions to ask day care workers or babysitters

- What did my child do today?
- What did my child enjoy doing?
- Did my child make or draw anything today? Can I see it?
- Did you do any singing with the children today? How did my child like that?

Resources

The Alberta Children's Services Web site has information for parents.

☞ Go to <www.child.gov.ab.ca/whatwedo/childcare/pdf/NC423pdf.pdf> to download *Choosing a Family Day Home: A Guide for Parents.*

☞ Go to <www.child.gov.ab.ca/whatwedo/childcare/pdf/NCN422.pdf> to download *Choosing a Day Care Centre: A Guide for Parents.*

The Alberta government has a free Parent Information Line at 1-866-714-5437 to help answer questions about programs and services.

Family Literacy: Learning Together #4 is a special issue of *English Express*. It is published by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology under the Parent-Child Literacy Strategy.

Where to get copies

We can send free copies of *Family Literacy: Learning Together* to schools, libraries and agencies in Alberta, the NWT, the Yukon and Nunavut.
Please consolidate orders for your organization or school. We do not send *English Express* to other provinces or countries, or to individual readers.

How to contact us

E-MAIL: subscriptions@englishexpress.ca

PHONE: In Edmonton, 780-440-3722
Outside Edmonton, 1-877-440-3722 (toll free)

FAX: 780-468-3119

MAIL: English Express
Box 38028 Capilano
Edmonton AB T6A 3Y6

Updated January 2007

Songs and nursery rhymes

On page C, the twins sing *Ring Around the Rosy* at the day care centre.
Ring Around the Rosy is a traditional circle song. Two or three people can play it.

Words:	**Actions:**
Ring around the rosy, pocket full of posies, ashes, ashes, * we all fall down!	Hold hands. Walk in a circle Fall down.
The cows are in the pasture, eating buttercups, thunder, lightning, we all stand up.	Stay seated in the circle. Pretend to eat. Pound your hands on the floor. Stand up quickly.

*Sometimes people say *husha* instead of *ashes*.

Activity: Do you know a children's circle song like this in your language?
Sing the song with the actions.

Resource: *Toddler Play*, edited by Dr. Wendy S. Masi, Creative Publishing International, 2001.

Cartoon

- Read the cartoon. Ask the students if they know the story of the three little pigs and the big bad wolf.
- Tell the story or read it to the students. Look for *The Three Little Pigs* in the public library in book or tape format.

Discussion

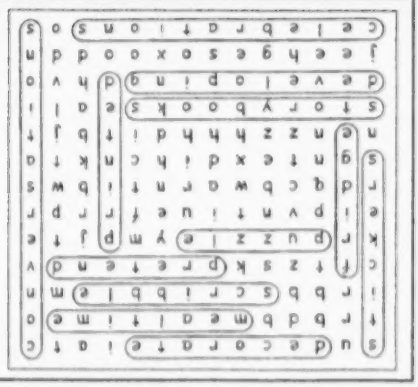
- What do toddlers like about this story?
- Why is it good to use different voices?
- What actions can go with this story?
- How can toddlers help to tell the story?

Answers from page TN-4

The twins

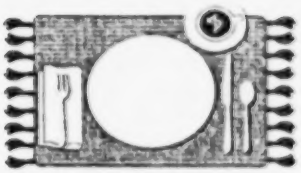
1 a
2 b
3 b
4 a
5 c
6 b

Find the words



Toddlers enjoy helping their parents

Discussion
Name some activities that toddlers can help with.
For example, a toddler on Page D is helping to set the table.



Learning new words
Here are some activities for parents and children to do together.
Write down some words that toddlers might learn during these activities.

Activity	Words that toddlers might learn
Put away clean clothes	
Set the table	*plate, fork, mat, left*
Put away groceries	
Put away toys and books	
Feed a pet	

Parents expand what toddlers say

Toddlers often say a few words at a time. Parents can expand those words into one or two sentences. For example, the child on the swing says, "Push me again." The parent says, "Okay. I'll push you. Hold on tight."

Expand what these children say.

The child is drinking juice. She says, "All gone."

Parent says: _____

The child is eating a cookie. He says, "More."

Parent says: _____

_____

The child is holding her favourite book. She says, "Read story."

Parent says: _____

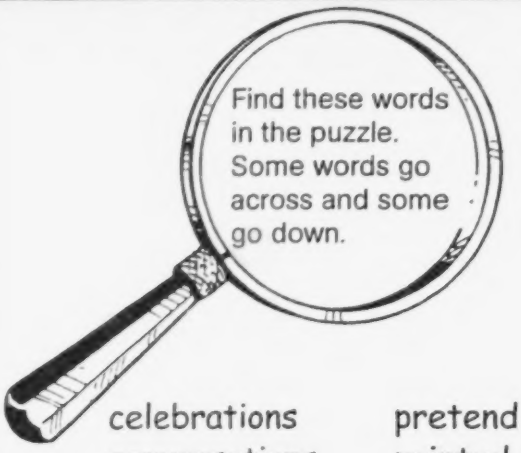
_____

The child is getting dressed. He says, "No red socks."

Parent says: _____

Find the words

Answers on page 2-TN



s	u	d	e	c	o	r	a	t	e	i	a	t	c
t	r	b	d	b	m	e	a	l	t	i	m	e	o
i	r	b	b	s	c	r	i	b	b	l	e	m	n
c	f	t	z	s	k	p	r	e	t	e	n	d	v
k	r	p	u	z	z	l	e	y	m	p	j	t	e
e	i	p	v	n	t	i	u	e	f	r	r	p	r
r	d	q	c	b	w	a	r	n	t	i	b	w	s
s	g	n	t	e	x	d	i	h	c	n	k	t	a
n	e	n	z	z	h	h	h	d	i	t	b	j	t
s	t	o	r	y	b	o	o	k	s	e	a	l	i
d	e	v	e	l	o	p	i	n	g	d	h	v	o
j	e	e	h	g	e	s	o	x	o	o	d	d	n
c	e	l	e	b	r	a	t	i	o	n	s	o	s

celebrations
conversations
decorate
developing
fridge
mealtime
pretend
printed
puzzle
scribble
stickers
storybooks

What do you remember about the twins?

Circle the correct answers.

1. Achan and Anger are from
a) Sudan
b) South Africa
c) South America

2. At home, they learn English and
a) Armenian
b) Arabic
c) Amharic

3. The twins go to
a) school
b) day care
c) their aunt's house

4. They put their pictures on
a) the fridge
b) the table
c) the wall

5. The twins are
a) five years old
b) four years old
c) two years old

6. The twins are
a) the oldest in their family
b) the youngest in their family
c) in the middle of their family

(Answers on page 2-TN)